



Mosquito Breeding Site Checklist



Mosquitoes need water to stand for at least five days to breed. A container as small as a bottle cap is enough! Reduce the number of areas where water may collect and then reduce the length of time water will sit. Use the checklist below to start eliminating mosquito breeding sites at your home.

Potential Breeding Site	How to Correct
<input type="checkbox"/> Roof gutters	Clean out leaves and debris frequently and make sure gutters are installed correctly to ensure water flows freely and does not accumulate.
<input type="checkbox"/> Black corrugated pipes for downspout drainage	Grooves in plastic pipes can hold enough water to breed mosquitoes. Replace with smooth piping or treat with a larvicide.
<input type="checkbox"/> Buckets, watering cans, drinking glasses, plastic cups, bottle caps or any trash that can hold water	Store indoors or turn over. If trash, recycle or throw away.
<input type="checkbox"/> Cans and containers	Throw away, store indoors, turn upside down, drill holes in the bottom, or empty after rain showers.
<input type="checkbox"/> Old tires	Recycle/dispose or store where they won't collect rainwater. For playground use, drill water drainage holes. Call 240-314-8568 for disposal information.
<input type="checkbox"/> Bird baths	Change the water or flush out and clean with a garden hose at least once a week or treat with a mosquito dunk*.
<input type="checkbox"/> Ornamental ponds	Stock with fish (fish eat mosquito larvae), filter/aerate the water with a recirculation pump or treat with a larvicide as needed. Do not apply larvicide to ponds that connect to a stream.
<input type="checkbox"/> Potted plants with saucers	Empty saucers or flush out with garden hose once a week.
<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pools	If unused or abandoned, treat with a mosquito dunk* or other larvicide once a month. Mosquitoes can't breed in maintained swimming pools because of the chemicals used.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tarps on woodpiles and garden equipment	Empty water that collects in folds and sagging areas. Tighten or straighten so water runs off.
<input type="checkbox"/> Under decks, porches or outbuildings	Fill in depressions where water can collect. Remove any container that can collect water
<input type="checkbox"/> Canoes, boats	Cover with a tight-fitting tarp or store upside down.
<input type="checkbox"/> Dripping outdoor faucets and window air conditioners	If water puddles, repair faucet. Place rocks under window air conditioner to ensure water runoff.
<input type="checkbox"/> Children's toys	Store indoors or in a manner that prevents water accumulation. Note that some toys have inner compartments that can hold water.
<input type="checkbox"/> Wheelbarrows	Turn over when not in use.
<input type="checkbox"/> Garbage cans, recycle bins, other barrels	Keep covered or drill drainage holes in bottom. Place lids on garbage cans. Store bins and barrels to allow water runoff.
<input type="checkbox"/> Low spot in yard	Level with sand or dirt. Avoid over-watering of your yard.
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree stumps and hollows	Fill tree stumps and hollow areas in trees with sand.
<input type="checkbox"/> Rain barrels	Make sure rain barrels have a clean screen and tight fitting lid and treat with mosquito dunks* or other larvicide or a capful of bleach once a month. Drain completely at least once a week.

*Mosquito dunks should only be used in small containers of water around residential properties, private rain gardens, rain barrels and other places that do not flow into streams, lakes or rivers.

For more information on reducing mosquitoes, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/mosquito.